

## IMPACT OF SUMMER SEASON, PLANT DENSITY AND INTEGRATED NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT ON POSTHARVEST QUALITY OF GUAVA CV. LALIT

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### ABSTRACT

The guava (*Psidium guajava* L.) cv. Lalit'' was studied under different spacing (2 x 2, 3 x 3, 6 x 3 and 6 x 6 m) in rainy season for postharvest quality at Regional Horticulture Research Station, College of Horticulture, Bengaluru. The maximum TSS (15.14 °B), titratable acidity (0.44 %), sugar:acid ratio (39.17), total sugars (15.57 %), reducing sugars (9.19 %) and ascorbic acid (169.24 mg 100<sup>-1</sup> g pulp), PLW (9.31 %), Firmness of fruit (3.50 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>). The integrated nutrient management maximum TSS (15.77 °B), titratable acidity (0.34 %), sugar:acid ratio (52.70), total sugars (16.74 %), reducing sugars (9.91 %) and ascorbic acid (184.52 mg 100<sup>-1</sup> g pulp), PLW (6.85 %), Firmness of fruit (4.55 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>) was recorded.

**KEYWORDS:** TSS, Acidity, Total Sugars, Reducing Sugars, Ascorbic Acid, PLW & Guava

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### INTRODUCTION

Guava (*Psidium guajava* L.) is a popular fruit crop in India. It belongs to the family Myrtaceae. It can be grown in tropical and subtropical climate and it adapted for diverse soil and agro climatic conditions. It is relatively precocious and prolific in fruit bearing nature, could gives highly remunerative for crop production. The fruits are highly nutritious, it has a rich source of vitamin 'C' after barbados cherry (1500 mg 100<sup>-1</sup>g) and aonla (700 mg 100<sup>-1</sup>g) and Vitamin 'C' content of fruits vary from 95.75 to 239.00 mg 100<sup>-1</sup> g cultivars of guava Singh *et al.* (1976). Plant density and nutritional management play an important role in obtaining good quality of fruits. The application of huge amount of chemical fertilizers hampers the fruit quality, soil health and causes environmental pollution. So, the INM approach gives away to overcome these problems. The integrated approach of organic, inorganic and bio-fertilizers were used to know the effect on quality of guava fruits.

### MATERIAL AND METHODS

The present research was carried out at the Regional Horticultural Research Experimental Centre (RHREC), UHS, Campus, Bengaluru during the year 2012-13 and the research was conducted on three year old guava trees. The research plot laid with four different plant densities included, 2 x 2 m, 3 x 3 m, 6 x 3 m and 6 x 6 m. The treatment comprises of T<sub>1</sub>: FYM (10 kg) + recommended NPK (50:25:75 g plant<sup>-1</sup>), T<sub>2</sub>: Vermicompost (10 kg) + recommended NPK, T<sub>3</sub>: FYM (5 kg) + vermicompost (5 kg) + recommended NPK, T<sub>4</sub>: FYM (10 kg) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK, T<sub>5</sub>: *Azotobacter* (20 g) + FYM (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK, T<sub>6</sub>: *Azotobacter* (20 g) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK, T<sub>7</sub>: PSB (20 g) + FYM (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK, T<sub>8</sub>: PSB (20 g) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK, T<sub>9</sub>: *Azotobacter*

(20 g) + PSB (20 g) + FYM (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK, T<sub>10</sub>: *Azotobacter* (20 g) + PSB (20 g) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK. The bio-fertilizers were procured from Department of Microbiology, UAS, Bengaluru. The experiment was statistically carried out by split plot design with ten treatments replicated thrice with two trees per replication. The observations recorded for fruit quality in 'ambe' bahar season in 2013.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The total soluble solids of rainy season were presented (Table1) and it has significant impact by spacing and integrated nutrient management. In rainy season fruits total soluble solids were vary at different densities 2 x 2 m, 3 x 3 m, 6 x 3 m and 6 x 6 m (14.77, 14.93, 14.97, 15.14 °Brix respectively) proclaimed the significant results. The application of *Azotobacter* @ 20 g + PSB @ 20 g + vermicompost @ 10 kg + 50 % recommended NPK (T<sub>10</sub>) results higher total soluble solids (15.77 °Brix), followed by the combination of *Azotobacter* @ 20 g + PSB @ 20 g + FYM @ 10 kg + 50 % recommended NPK (T<sub>9</sub>) (15.44 °Brix). The titratable acidity of guava fruits showed significant prominence in spacing and integrated nutrient management. The rainy season fruits (2013) perceived by the results at different densities for titratable acidity showed at different densities 6 x 3 m and 6 x 6 m recorded minimum acidity of 0.44 % respectively. Application of *Azotobacter* @ 20 g + PSB @ 20 g + vermicompost @ 10 kg + 50 % recommended NPK (T<sub>10</sub>) were significantly influenced by organic and inorganic sources of nutrients, results in least titratable acidity (0.34 %) and the highest titratable acidity (0.62 %) was observed in (T<sub>1</sub>).

Total sugar of fruits was directly related with the sweet taste and mainly dependent on plant physiological aspects and photosynthetic activity and the data presented in Table (2) proclaimed statistical significant differences observed in different planting densities as a treatments i.e. (2 x 2 m), (3 x 3 m), (6 x 3 m) and (6 x 6 m) total sugar of fruits in rainy season (2013) shows significant results (15.53, 15.55, 15.55 & 15.57 %) were recorded. Integrated nutrient management showed significant results were recorded in total sugar (T<sub>10</sub>) - *Azotobacter* @ 20 g + PSB @ 20 g + vermin compost @ 10 kg + 50 % recommended NPK (16.74 %). The reducing sugar was most important biochemical parameter which is responsible for sweet taste of guava fruit. The reducing sugars divulge that there is a statistical significant differences observed in different planting densities as a treatments i.e. (2 x 2 m), (3 x 3 m), (6 x 3 m) and (6 x 6 m) reducing sugars of fruits in rainy season (2013) shows (9.10, 9.11, 9.16 & 9.19 %) were recorded. Integrated nutrient management showed significant fruitation was recorded in treatment (T<sub>10</sub> - *Azotobacter* @ 20 g + PSB @ 20 g + vermin compost @ 10 kg + 50 % recommended NPK) (9.91 %).

**The sugar:** Acid ratio determines the taste of fruit where moderate values always offer peculiar blend/flavor of that an individual fruit. The data revealed that the sugar : acid ratio of fruits was significantly influenced by spacing and integrated nutrient management during rainy season. In rainy season (2013) the sugar : acid ratio of fruits were recorded under different spacing 2 x 2 m (37.97), 3 x 3 m (38.11), 6 x 3 m (39.13) and 6 x 6 m (39.17) was found significant among the different densities of plants. The integrated nutrient management studies revealed that the treatment (T<sub>10</sub>) *Azotobacter* @ 20 g + PSB @ 20 g + vermin compost @ 10 kg + 50 % recommended NPK shows highest sugar : acid ratio of fruits (52.70). The ascorbic acid content of guava was influenced by integrated nutrient management and different spacing. At the different spacing 2 x 2 m, 3 x 3 m, 6 x 3 m & 6 x 6 m (162.75, 167.63, 167.67 & 169.24 mg 100<sup>-1</sup> g pulp respectively) was observed in rainy season (2013). The application of *Azotobacter* @ 20 g + PSB @ 20 g + vermin compost @ 10 kg + 50 % recommended NPK (T<sub>10</sub>) results higher amount of ascorbic acid content (184.52 mg 100<sup>-1</sup> g pulp), the lowest ascorbic acid content (152.80 mg 100<sup>-1</sup> g pulp) observed in (T<sub>1</sub>) FYM @ 10 kg + recommended NPK 50:25:75 g per plant

(Table 3).

In the rainy season the physiological weight loss of fruits was minimum (8.51 %) in 2 x 2 m spacing. The integrated nutrient study reveals that the minimum physiological weight loss was (6.85 %) observed in T<sub>10</sub> (*Azotobacter* @ 20 g + PSB @ 20 g + vermicompost @ 10 kg + 50 % recommended NPK). The fruit records the maximum (4.07 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>) firmness in 2 x 2 m spacing. Whereas, the integrated nutrient studies reveals that the minimum seed hardness was (4.55 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>) observed in (T<sub>10</sub>) *Azotobacter* @ 20g + PSB @ 20g + vermicompost @ 10kg + 50% recommended NPK (Table 4).

The improvement of fruit quality in, total soluble solid, total sugars, reducing sugars and ascorbic acid content by the application of optimum dose of NPK may be explained that the phosphorus enters into the composition of phospholipids and nucleic acids were combine with proteins and results in formation of nucleo proteins which are important constituents of nuclei of the cells. Potassium acts as a catalyst in the formation of more complex substances and in the acceleration of enzyme activity. These carbohydrates and coenzymes are beneficial in improving fruit quality. Nitrogen enhanced the uptake of phosphorus and potassium. The chain reactions in these components and beneficial effect of worms which is brought about by mucoses deposit of epidermal cells an coelomic fluids of earthworms, rich in plant growth substances and through rapid mineralization and transformation of plant nutrients in soil and also through the exertion of plant promoting substances, vitamins and amino acid content produced by the microorganism of bio-fertilizers might have possibly been a reason of the improvement in quality of the fruit (Binopal *et al.* 2013).

The significant increase in TSS (<sup>0</sup>B) and ascorbic acid content was observed with the application of organic manures, leading to availability of nutrients in rhizosphere for a longer period. So, the application of organic manures along with chemical fertilizers improves the soil fertility status i.e. during the decomposition of organic manures organic acids were released which will solubilizing some of the insoluble nutrient compounds and make it available to the plant, it also improves soil aeration, water holding capacity of soil improves aggregate formation, suppresses the some of the pests and diseases (Madhavi *et al.*, 2005 & 2007).

The similar findings were agreed that the fruit quality in guava was governed by the application of nutrients by integrated approach will significantly increase in TSS may be attributed to increased absorption of nutrients by the plants as a result of improved physico-chemical and biological activities in the soil and the combined role of these inputs upon the better portioning of metabolites from source to the sink (Dwivedi, 2013). The improvement in fruit quality by an increase in TSS content of fruits might have been due to beneficial role of nutrients on the process of photosynthesis which ultimately led to the accumulation of large amount of carbohydrates and there by increased TSS content of fruits. The acidity of guava fruits significantly decreased with the application of nutrients. This might be due to increase in sugar content with the application of nutrients. Wahid *et al.* (1991) reported that nitrogen treatments improved fruit quality by increasing the TSS, sugar, ascorbic acid and decreasing acidity of fruits. The upsurges in TSS, TSS/acid ratio and decreased acidity of guava fruits due to application of NPK have also been reported by Rathore and Dhyani (2005) in guava. The effect of inorganic fertilizer along with bio-fertilizer on guava cv. Sardar shows the highest total soluble solids (11.80 <sup>0</sup>Brix), total sugar (9.58 %), TSS/acid ratio (25.73) and ascorbic acid (128.52 mg 100<sup>-1</sup> g pulp) were recorded under fruits treated with 100 % N + 100 % P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> + *Azospirillum* + VAM (T<sub>5</sub>) followed by T<sub>4</sub> (100 % N + 50 % P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> + VAM inoculation) while control recorded minimum control of their bio-chemical qualities. Acid content of fruit was also minimum (0.44) in T<sub>5</sub> (Dutta *et al.*, 2009). The results obtained by Mitra and Bose (1987) in guava are also in accordance

with present findings. The similar findings were recorded in sapota fruits, where the plants applied with of nitrogen fixing bacteria (*Azotobacter*) with lower dose of inorganic fertilizers might have exhibited regulatory role on the absorption and translocation of various metabolites, in which carbohydrates are most important which affects the quality of fruits. During ripening of fruits the carbohydrates reserves of the root and stem are drawn upon heavily and hydrolyses into sugars hence results in better fruit quality (Baviskar *et al.*, 2011). Fruit quality was significantly influenced by the application of different treatment combinations of organic manures, organic fertilizers and bio-fertilizers. Quality parameter such as TSS (14.0 °Brix), ascorbic acid (198.30 mg 100<sup>-1</sup> g pulp), reducing sugar (4.77 %), and total sugars (8.10 %) contents were significantly higher with the application of 50 per cent dose of recommended NPK + 50 kg FYM along with 250 g *Azotobacter* (T<sub>7</sub>) except acidity (0.47 %) which was found minimum in 50 per cent dose of recommended NPK + 25 kg FYM + 250 g *Azospirillum* (T<sub>6</sub>) and maximum in 50 per cent dose of recommended NPK + 25 kg FYM + 250 g *Pseudomonas fluorescence* (T<sub>9</sub>) (Shukla *et al.*, 2009).

## CONCLUSIONS

The effect of bio-fertilizer along with inorganic fertilizer on quality of guava cv. Lalit was studied. Experimental findings revealed that different treatments of bio-fertilizers and inorganic fertilizer significantly increased the total soluble solids, total sugars reducing sugar, sugar: acid ratio and ascorbic acid content PLW and firmness was minimum in fruits, whereas, the minimum acidic content was declined in fruits were observed in the combination of *Azotobacter* @ 20 g + PSB @ 20 g + vermin compost @ 10 kg + 50 % recommended NPK while control recorded minimum. Inoculation of *Azotobacter* and PSB along with inorganic fertilizers also proved effective.

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## APPENDICES

**Table 1: Effect of High Density Guava and Integrated Nutrient Management of Guava Fruits on Quality Parameters in Rainy Season**

Treatments	Total Soluble Solids (%)					Titratable Acidity (%)				
	S <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>3</sub>	S <sub>4</sub>	Mean	S <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>3</sub>	S <sub>4</sub>	Mean
T <sub>1</sub>	13.88	14.05	14.05	14.29	<b>14.07</b>	0.64	0.61	0.63	0.57	<b>0.62</b>
T <sub>2</sub>	14.09	13.75	14.29	14.49	<b>14.15</b>	0.56	0.56	0.53	0.54	<b>0.55</b>
T <sub>3</sub>	14.19	14.76	14.49	14.84	<b>14.57</b>	0.53	0.53	0.53	0.51	<b>0.52</b>
T <sub>4</sub>	14.39	14.69	14.69	14.9	<b>14.67</b>	0.48	0.48	0.49	0.46	<b>0.48</b>
T <sub>5</sub>	14.69	15.23	14.9	15.1	<b>14.98</b>	0.43	0.43	0.42	0.43	<b>0.43</b>
T <sub>6</sub>	14.9	15.27	15.1	15.3	<b>15.14</b>	0.4	0.39	0.39	0.41	<b>0.4</b>
T <sub>7</sub>	15.1	16.01	15.4	15.4	<b>15.48</b>	0.39	0.39	0.37	0.37	<b>0.38</b>
T <sub>8</sub>	15.3	14.79	15.5	15.5	<b>15.28</b>	0.37	0.38	0.35	0.37	<b>0.37</b>
T <sub>9</sub>	15.5	14.93	15.61	15.71	<b>15.44</b>	0.35	0.36	0.35	0.37	<b>0.36</b>
T <sub>10</sub>	15.71	15.77	15.71	15.91	<b>15.77</b>	0.34	0.35	0.32	0.32	<b>0.34</b>
Mean	<b>14.77</b>	<b>14.93</b>	<b>14.97</b>	<b>15.14</b>		<b>0.45</b>	<b>0.45</b>	<b>0.44</b>	<b>0.44</b>	
	S.E.m ±		CD @ 5 %			S.E.m ±		CD @ 5 %		
S	0.001		0.005			0.0001		0.0005		
T	0.003		0.007			0.0011		0.003		
S x T	0.005		0.015			0.0021		0.0058		

T <sub>1</sub> : FYM (10 kg) + recommended NPK (50:25:75 g plant <sup>-1</sup> )	T <sub>6</sub> : Azotobacter (20 g) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK
T <sub>2</sub> : Vermicompost (10 kg) + recommended NPK	T <sub>7</sub> : PSB (20 g) + FYM (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK
T <sub>3</sub> : FYM (5 kg) + vermicompost (5 kg) + recommended NPK	T <sub>8</sub> : PSB (20 g) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK
T <sub>4</sub> : FYM (10 kg) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	T <sub>9</sub> : Azotobacter (20 g) + PSB (20 g) + FYM (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK
T <sub>5</sub> : Azotobacter (20 g) + FYM (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	T <sub>10</sub> : Azotobacter (20 g) + PSB (20 g) + vermicompost (10 kg) 50% recommended NPK
S <sub>1</sub> - 2 x 2 m	S <sub>2</sub> - 3 x 3 m
S <sub>3</sub> - 6 x 3 m	S <sub>4</sub> - 6 x 6 m

**Table 2: Effect of High Density Guava and Integrated Nutrient Management of Guava Fruits on Quality Parameters in Rainy Season**

Treatments	Total Sugars (%)					Reducing Sugars (%)				
	S <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>3</sub>	S <sub>4</sub>	Mean	S <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>3</sub>	S <sub>4</sub>	Mean
T <sub>1</sub>	14.86	14.94	14.87	14.85	<b>14.88</b>	8.51	8.54	8.51	8.76	<b>8.58</b>
T <sub>2</sub>	15.12	15.02	15.03	15.04	<b>15.05</b>	8.78	8.7	8.84	8.87	<b>8.8</b>
T <sub>3</sub>	15.17	15.19	15.23	15.24	<b>15.21</b>	8.79	8.78	8.9	8.89	<b>8.84</b>
T <sub>4</sub>	15.19	15.26	15.31	15.3	<b>15.27</b>	8.9	8.87	8.92	8.94	<b>8.91</b>
T <sub>5</sub>	15.34	15.33	15.41	15.48	<b>15.39</b>	8.91	8.95	9.03	8.96	<b>8.96</b>
T <sub>6</sub>	15.42	15.49	15.51	15.51	<b>15.48</b>	9.01	8.97	9.05	9.1	<b>9.03</b>
T <sub>7</sub>	15.5	15.52	15.53	15.53	<b>15.52</b>	9.02	9.08	9.07	9.15	<b>9.08</b>
T <sub>8</sub>	15.95	15.95	15.98	15.98	<b>15.96</b>	9.6	9.61	9.6	9.63	<b>9.61</b>

Table 2: Contd.,

<b>T<sub>9</sub></b>	15.96	15.98	15.98	16.04	<b>15.99</b>	9.64	9.68	9.72	9.68	<b>9.68</b>
<b>T<sub>10</sub></b>	16.8	16.78	16.65	16.74	<b>16.74</b>	9.86	9.9	9.93	9.93	<b>9.91</b>
<b>Mean</b>	<b>15.53</b>	<b>15.55</b>	<b>15.55</b>	<b>15.57</b>		<b>9.1</b>	<b>9.11</b>	<b>9.16</b>	<b>9.19</b>	
	<b>S.E.m±</b>		<b>CD @ 5 %</b>			<b>S.E.m±</b>		<b>CD @ 5 %</b>		
<b>S</b>	0.0004		0.0013			0.001		0.003		
<b>T</b>	0.0063		0.0178			0.005		0.014		
<b>S x T</b>	0.012		0.0338			0.01		0.027		

<b>T<sub>1</sub></b> : FYM (10 kg) + recommended NPK (50:25:75 g plant <sup>-1</sup> )		<b>T<sub>6</sub></b> : <i>Azotobacter</i> (20 g) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	
<b>T<sub>2</sub></b> : Vermicompost (10 kg) + recommended NPK		<b>T<sub>7</sub></b> : PSB (20 g) + FYM (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	
<b>T<sub>3</sub></b> : FYM (5 kg) + vermicompost (5 kg) + recommended NPK		<b>T<sub>8</sub></b> : PSB (20 g) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	
<b>T<sub>4</sub></b> : FYM (10 kg) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK		<b>T<sub>9</sub></b> : <i>Azotobacter</i> (20 g) + PSB (20 g) + FYM (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	
<b>T<sub>5</sub></b> : <i>Azotobacter</i> (20 g) + FYM (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK		<b>T<sub>10</sub></b> : <i>Azotobacter</i> (20 g) + PSB (20 g) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	
<b>S<sub>1</sub>- 2 x 2 m</b>	<b>S<sub>2</sub>- 3 x 3 m</b>	<b>S<sub>3</sub>- 6 x 3 m</b>	<b>S<sub>4</sub>- 6 x 6 m</b>

Table 3: Effect of High Density Guava and Integrated Nutrient Management of Guava Fruits on Quality Parameters in Rainy Season

Treatments	Sugar: Acid Ratio					Ascorbic Acid (mg 100 <sup>-1</sup> pulp)				Mean
	S <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>3</sub>	S <sub>4</sub>	Mean	2x2 m	3x3 m	6x3 m	6x6 m	
<b>T<sub>1</sub></b>	25.63	24.25	27.19	24.64	<b>25.43</b>	149.06	153.53	153.56	155.07	<b>152.8</b>
<b>T<sub>2</sub></b>	29.17	29.2	30.4	29.98	<b>29.69</b>	151.64	156.19	156.22	157	<b>155.26</b>
<b>T<sub>3</sub></b>	30.04	30.05	30.68	30.37	<b>30.28</b>	153.74	158.36	158.39	159.94	<b>157.61</b>
<b>T<sub>4</sub></b>	33.49	33.57	34.63	32.41	<b>33.52</b>	160.4	165.21	165.24	166.86	<b>164.43</b>
<b>T<sub>5</sub></b>	37.67	37.85	37.71	38.01	<b>37.81</b>	161.15	165.98	166.02	167.64	<b>165.2</b>
<b>T<sub>6</sub></b>	41.46	40.92	39.74	42.3	<b>41.11</b>	163.18	168.07	168.1	169.75	<b>167.27</b>
<b>T<sub>7</sub></b>	43.41	43.48	44.07	44.99	<b>43.99</b>	166.09	171.08	171.11	172.79	<b>170.27</b>
<b>T<sub>8</sub></b>	44.36	45.37	45.3	45.92	<b>45.24</b>	168.8	173.87	173.9	175.61	<b>173.05</b>
<b>T<sub>9</sub></b>	44.71	45.58	46.2	48.35	<b>46.21</b>	173.46	178.66	178.7	180.45	<b>177.82</b>
<b>T<sub>10</sub></b>	49.73	50.87	55.43	54.77	<b>52.70</b>	180	185.4	185.44	187.26	<b>184.52</b>
<b>Mean</b>	<b>37.97</b>	<b>38.11</b>	<b>39.13</b>	<b>39.17</b>		<b>162.75</b>	<b>167.63</b>	<b>167.67</b>	<b>169.24</b>	
	<b>S.E.m±</b>		<b>CD @ 5 %</b>			<b>S.E.m±</b>		<b>CD @ 5 %</b>		
<b>S</b>	0.0001		0.0005			0.03		0.12		
<b>T</b>	0.0011		0.003			0.06		0.17		
<b>S x T</b>	0.0021		0.0058			0.12		0.33		

<b>T<sub>1</sub></b> : FYM (10 kg) + recommended NPK (50:25:75 g plant <sup>-1</sup> )		<b>T<sub>6</sub></b> : <i>Azotobacter</i> (20 g) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	
<b>T<sub>2</sub></b> : Vermicompost (10 kg) + recommended NPK		<b>T<sub>7</sub></b> : PSB (20 g) + FYM (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	
<b>T<sub>3</sub></b> : FYM (5 kg) + vermicompost (5 kg) + recommended NPK		<b>T<sub>8</sub></b> : PSB (20 g) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	
<b>T<sub>4</sub></b> : FYM (10 kg) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK		<b>T<sub>9</sub></b> : <i>Azotobacter</i> (20 g) + PSB (20 g) + FYM (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	
<b>T<sub>5</sub></b> : <i>Azotobacter</i> (20 g) + FYM (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK		<b>T<sub>10</sub></b> : <i>Azotobacter</i> (20 g) + PSB (20 g) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	
<b>S<sub>1</sub>- 2 x 2 m</b>	<b>S<sub>2</sub>- 3 x 3 m</b>	<b>S<sub>3</sub>- 6 x 3 m</b>	<b>S<sub>4</sub>- 6 x 6 m</b>

**Table 4: Effect of High Density Guava and Integrated Nutrient Management of Guava Fruits Shelf Life Studies in Rainy Season**

Treatments	Physiological Loss of Weight (%)				Mean	Firmness of Fruit (kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )				Mean
	S <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>3</sub>	S <sub>4</sub>		S <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>3</sub>	S <sub>4</sub>	
T <sub>1</sub>	9.54	10.68	9.62	10.8	<b>10.16</b>	3.66	3.81	3.62	3.24	<b>3.58</b>
T <sub>2</sub>	9.28	10.64	9.44	10.7	<b>10.02</b>	3.84	3.86	3.65	3.21	<b>3.64</b>
T <sub>3</sub>	8.99	10.63	9.44	10.58	<b>9.91</b>	3.88	3.88	3.68	3.29	<b>3.68</b>
T <sub>4</sub>	8.7	9.18	9.25	10.01	<b>9.29</b>	3.93	3.94	3.79	3.3	<b>3.74</b>
T <sub>5</sub>	8.52	9.04	8.97	9.26	<b>8.95</b>	3.98	3.97	3.87	3.33	<b>3.79</b>
T <sub>6</sub>	8.33	8.59	8.92	9.05	<b>8.72</b>	4.02	4.03	3.94	3.37	<b>3.84</b>
T <sub>7</sub>	8.04	7.85	8.75	8.94	<b>8.4</b>	4.11	4.07	3.99	3.4	<b>3.89</b>
T <sub>8</sub>	7.93	7.56	8.38	8.8	<b>8.17</b>	4.16	4.12	4.04	3.45	<b>3.94</b>
T <sub>9</sub>	7.87	6.97	8.22	7.64	<b>7.67</b>	4.48	4.21	4.16	3.8	<b>4.16</b>
T <sub>10</sub>	7.84	5.73	6.5	7.32	<b>6.85</b>	4.66	4.73	4.25	4.55	<b>4.55</b>
Mean	<b>8.51</b>	<b>8.69</b>	<b>8.75</b>	<b>9.31</b>		<b>4.07</b>	<b>4.06</b>	<b>3.90</b>	<b>3.50</b>	
	S.E.m ±		CD @ 5 %			S.E.m ±		CD @ 5 %		
S	0.07		0.24			0.1		0.35		
T	0.12		0.34			0.01		0.02		
S x T	0.24		0.67			0.1		0.29		

T <sub>1</sub> : FYM (10 kg) + recommended NPK (50:25:75 g plant <sup>-1</sup> )		T <sub>6</sub> : <i>Azotobacter</i> (20 g) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	
T <sub>2</sub> : Vermicompost (10 kg) + recommended NPK		T <sub>7</sub> : PSB (20 g) + FYM (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	
T <sub>3</sub> : FYM (5 kg) + vermicompost (5 kg) + recommended NPK		T <sub>8</sub> : PSB (20 g) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	
T <sub>4</sub> : FYM (10 kg) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK		T <sub>9</sub> : <i>Azotobacter</i> (20 g) + PSB (20 g) + FYM (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	
T <sub>5</sub> : <i>Azotobacter</i> (20 g) + FYM (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK		T <sub>10</sub> : <i>Azotobacter</i> (20 g) + PSB (20 g) + vermicompost (10 kg) + 50% recommended NPK	
S <sub>1</sub> - 2 x 2 m	S <sub>2</sub> - 3 x 3 m	S <sub>3</sub> - 6 x 3 m	S <sub>4</sub> - 6 x 6 m

